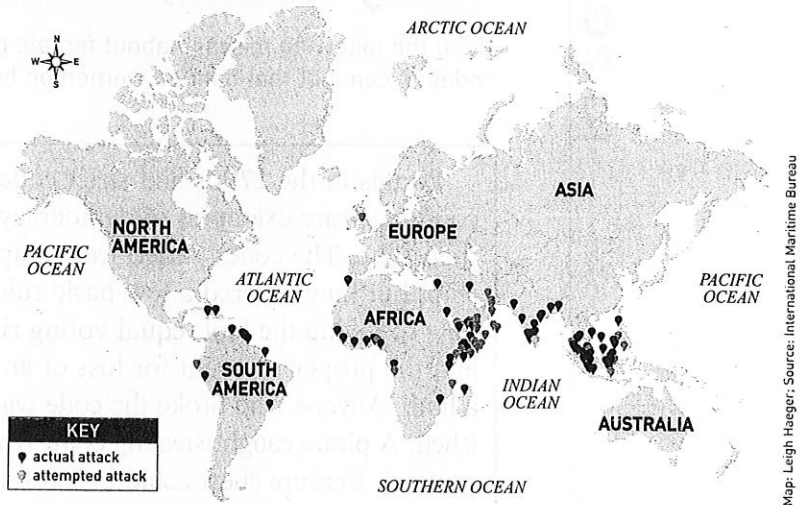


SKILLS PAGE

10.20.08

Analyze the Map

This map shows the locations of actual pirate attacks and attempted attacks that were reported last year to the International Maritime Bureau. Study the map, then answer the questions below.



1. Which ocean had the highest concentration of pirate attacks?

(A) Atlantic
(B) Southern
(C) Indian

2. Which continent had no reported pirate attacks or attempted attacks in 2007?

(A) Asia (B) Africa (C) Australia

3. Which statement is false, based on the map?

(A) Africa is east of South America.
(B) Asia is south of Australia.
(C) Europe is west of Asia.

4. Which ocean is farthest north?

(A) Indian (B) Pacific (C) Arctic

5. Which statement is true, based on the map?

(A) Europe is a haven for pirates.
(B) Pirates attacked ships off the coasts of several African countries in 2007.
(C) Pirate attacks are common in North America.

Comprehension

Read this issue's cover story, "The New Blackbeards." Then answer the following questions.

1. What did pirates discover when they hijacked the MV *Faina* and took its crew hostage on September 25?
- (A) tanks, ammunition, and military weapons
(B) an elite team of French navy divers
(C) treasure chests filled with gold coins

2. How might a shipping company's decision to pay \$2 million in ransom to pirates hurt that company in the future?

(A) By paying ransom, it agrees to release the ship's crew to join the pirates.
(B) Neighboring countries will want a cut of the ransom next time.
(C) It gives the pirates money to buy faster boats and more powerful weapons, which they can use to attack more ships.

3. How do pirates help Somalia?

(A) They spend their ransom money, which helps the country's economy.
(B) They run the country's government.
(C) They keep foreign ships out of Somalia's ports.

4. Which statement is an opinion?

(A) Somalia is on the Gulf of Aden.
(B) Pirates should be arrested and imprisoned.
(C) Most pirates release their hostages unharmed.

5. What is the main idea of the story?

(A) Pirates seized a French yacht in the Gulf of Aden and demanded ransom.
(B) Pirates are becoming an increasing menace to shipping off the coast of Africa.
(C) Five Somali men were convicted of piracy.

READING SKILLS

10.20.08

Ahoy There, Lassie!

Read the following passage about female pirates in the 1700s and how they got around the pirate codes of conduct that banned women on board. Then answer the questions.

Pirates in the 1700s had strict codes of conduct—rare examples of democracy for their time. The codes varied from ship to ship, but they covered a few basic rules: how to divide the loot, equal voting rights, and the proper payment for loss of an eye or a limb. Anyone who broke the code was punished. A pirate caught stealing coins from the captain's treasure chest could be left on a deserted island with just a jug of water.

Most pirates banned women from their ships, saying they were bad luck. However, some women dressed as men and joined the adventures. "Calico Jack" Rackham, a British pirate nicknamed for his colorful striped pants, was famous for letting women fight alongside him. His lover, Anne Bonny, the fiery and independent daughter of a wealthy lawyer, was one. Another was Mary Read; raised as a boy, she fought in the navy. Read joined Rackham's crew after he captured her military ship. Read battled the fearsome Bonny during the attack. The two disguised women soon became friends.

All three pirates were captured when another British ship attacked Rackham's. Legend has it that Bonny and Read were the only ones to fight back, but they were overpowered. In 1720, Rackham and his crew were sentenced to death. At the trial, both women "pleaded their bellies"—saying they were pregnant—so they were imprisoned instead. As Rackham went to the gallows, Bonny told him, "Had you fought like a man you need not be hanged like a dog."

1. For what was "Calico Jack" Rackham famous?

- Ⓐ wearing colorful shoes
- Ⓑ letting women sail with him
- Ⓒ escaping execution

2. Why might pirate codes be described as rare forms of "democracy"?

- Ⓐ They prohibited women on board.
- Ⓑ They established equal voting rights.
- Ⓒ They maintained order.

3. Which was a direct result of the attack on Read's navy ship?

- Ⓐ She was sentenced to death.
- Ⓑ She fell in love with Rackham.
- Ⓒ She joined the pirates.

4. Which statement is a fact?

- Ⓐ Bonny was imprisoned.
- Ⓑ Rackham fought in the military.
- Ⓒ Read was left on a deserted island.

5. What is the main idea of the story?

- Ⓐ Pirates who broke the codes of conduct were punished.
- Ⓑ Women pirates fought as men aboard Rackham's ship.
- Ⓒ Rackham's ship was captured.

Get Writing: Why might pirates have needed codes of conduct? Explain your answer on a separate sheet of paper. Then write your own pirate code of conduct. What rules would you make to maintain order on your ship?